

Laundry Soap Recipe

Preparation

- Grate 5 bars of soap (I used Fel-Naptha) in the food processor. Divide evenly into 13 baggies or small jars (about 1/4 to 1/3 cup each).
* I reuse my baggies.
- Put 1/2 cup of washing soda and 1/2 c. of borax into each of 13 baggies or small jars.
- Label the baggies/jars.

Recipe

- 3 pints water (six cups of water)
- 1/3 grated bar soap (1 baggie or jar)
- 1/2 cup washing soda + 1/2 cup borax (1 baggie or jar)
- Optional: A few drops of lavender essential oil for a pleasant scent. Lavender is also traditionally used to keep stored clothing fresh and moth free without the nasty smell of mothballs.
- 2 gallon bucket or larger
- 1 quart (four cups) hot water
- More hot water

Mix the soap in a saucepan with 3 pints (six cups) of water and heat on low until soap is dissolved.

Stir in washing soda and borax. Stir until thickened (it doesn't always get thick – often it's not much thicker than dish soap). After ten minutes or so, if it hasn't gotten thick, just move on to the next step.

Remove from heat.

Add 1 quart (four cups) hot water to 2 gallon bucket.

Add soap mixture and mix well.

Add 7 more quarts of hot water to the bucket and mix well. Set aside for 24 hours or until mixture thickens (usually overnight).

*My soap never does thicken up. Maybe the difference is the water?

As needed, I pour into recycled plastic juice jars for easier handling and keep the extra in the bucket.

- Use 1/2 cup of mixture per load for top loader.
- Front Loading Machines: For light load, use 1 tablespoon. For heavy or heavily soiled load, use 2 tablespoons.
- For extra dirty whites add a scoop of oxyclean.